

Group Art Unit: 3677  
Examiner: Lugo, C.



Atty. Ref.: USUI-12N

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11/6/02

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Shoichiro Usui  
Appl. No. : 09/731,170  
Filed : December 6, 2000  
For : HIGH-PRESSURE METAL PIPE HAVING CONNECTING HEAD AND  
METHOD OF FORMING THE CONNECTING HEAD AS WELL AS  
SLEEVE WASHER FOR THE CONNECTING HEAD

Box RCE  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This amendment is submitted concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Amend claim 5 as follows:

1. ~~5.~~ A high-pressure pipe assembly, comprising a metal pipe having opposite first and second ends, a connecting head adjacent said first end, said connecting head having a seat surface flared outwardly from said first end and a cylindrical surface extending from said seat surface away from said first end, said cylindrical surface having a selected outside diameter, a cylindrical body extending from said connecting head toward said second end, said cylindrical body having an outside diameter less than said selected outside diameter of said cylindrical surface of said connecting head, a passage extending